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'An Immoral Profession . . .'

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# PJC Official Lived CIA Agent Life

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9 Years

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News-Journal Staff Writer

AFTER NINE years in Europe as a secret undercover agent for the Central Intelligence Agency, Pensacola Junior College vice president Dr. Herman Heise came in from the cold.

Although Heise is tall and good-looking — in the James Bond tradition — his sensitive eyes suggest Richard Burton's movie portrait of the lonely, depressed CIA agent.

"I'm convinced Carre had to be a CIA agent to write 'The Spy Who Came in from the Cold.' It's the most accurate description of the spy business I've ever encountered," Heise said. He called his work "an immoral profession in which the opposition has laid all the ground rules."

To be a CIA agent, Heise had to develop a "criminal mentality." His work required that he lie, steal and cheat. He was taught to "case a joint," wire tap, pick locks and perform dozens of other spy tricks.

The hardest part of his training, Heise said, was "learning that good does not necessarily win out over evil."

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RARELY DID Heise encounter a James Bond-type experience. "When a case is going smoothly, it's routine, monotonous, boring," he explained. Since James Bond encounters so much action, Heise concludes, "he must be a pretty lousy spy."

As a spy, Heise had somewhat of a daily routine, similar to that of a businessman. He got up around 7:30 a.m. and went to his office to report on previous events and to send out memos for the

day's work. During lunch he had meetings with other agents. Later in the day he would visit hotels, taverns and other places to seek information.

Heise calls his spying expeditions, that took him all over Europe, "business trips." He put 80,000 miles on his car and traveled extensively by plane and rail.

Comparing his experiences to those depicted in James Bond movies, Heise commented, "I never saw women like James Bond sees!"

His nine years in Germany were not, however, without romantic experiences. He was once caught visiting a woman in female military barracks.

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THE WOMAN was his wife who was also working as a CIA agent. The CIA had asked the couple to serve in Europe but requested that they pose as single persons. Heise said the bizarre arrangement led to many embarrassing situations.

Heise explained that no one can volunteer to be a spy. The CIA requested Heise's service because his background indicated that he could be useful to them.

He was a graduate student at Georgetown University when he was contacted. Since his family comes from Germany and Heise speaks the language fluently, the CIA hoped that the modern European history student might be able to pass as a German citizen.

Heise did impersonate Germans, and he said that gaining the fluency of a native German without any trace of accent is no easy task.

While in Europe, Heise was assigned to 19 different identities in his work. One of the most tense moments came when he was meeting another

agent and suddenly couldn't remember which identity he was supposed to be at the time. He carefully avoided giving information about himself until the other agent mentioned the name of the person whose identification he was using.

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AFTER NINE years Heise felt that he could no longer continue living by the moral system a spy must use.

"The intelligence agent always gets hurt," Heise said emphatically. "The whole process of spying works through controlling people who can be blackmailed. The agent becomes the supply source for drug addicts or uses pervers, poor people and women in love to their advantage."

When asked if he ever wore a big trench coat, Heise explained that the raincoats are actually standard equipment.

They are used specifically to make the agent look like a spy so that he will attract people who want to give information.

Otherwise, undercover agents strive to be inconspicuous. "A spy's goal is to be 'the little grey man' that no one notices," Heise said.

"To be a spy you must do the most normal seeming things among the most abnormal types imaginable."

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HEISE'S CONTACT with

the Russians left him impressed with their competence. He called them "cold, calculating, serious and idealistic." Heise added "Their whole philosophy is to subvert others to their way of thinking."

Two of Heise's children were born while he was in

Germany. Not until this year did the children know their father had been a spy.

Heise's son was, of course, greatly impressed by his father's previous profession, and he would like to follow in his father's footsteps.

Heise's son may turn out to be more of the James Bond type than his father. While taking an intelligence test at school he was assigned a test booklet which, of all things, was numbered 007.